

REMARKS

Claims 1-7 remain pending in the application. Claims 1-7 have been amended to correct improper multiple dependencies and to place the claims in a form more customary for U.S. practice. The Specification has been amended to correct minor informalities and to add headings as suggested by the MPEP. No new matter has been introduced by any Specification or Claim amendment.

Applicants point out that an executed Declaration of Inventorship signed by all of the inventors was filed along with the PCT Request Form (PCT/RO/101) dated December 27, 2002.

This signed PCT Request provides an executed Declaration in compliance with the PCT Rules 4.17 (iv) and 51bis.1(a) (iv).

Applicants submit that all requirements for acceptance of the above-identified application under 35 U.S.C. 371 have been met.

In view of the above, each of the presently pending claims 1-7 in this application is believed to be in immediate condition for allowance. Accordingly, the Examiner is respectfully requested to pass this application to issue.

Applicant believes no fee is due with this response. However, if a fee is due, please charge our Deposit Account No. 22-0185, under Order No. 22106-00068-US1 from which the undersigned is authorized to draw.

Dated: June 24, 2004

Respectfully submitted,

By Larry J. Hume
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